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COVID -19 VACCINE PROVIDER

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

6/25/2021

Highlights

Policy

- The weekly vaccine request survey has been completely phased out effective 6/12. All COVID-19 Vaccine Providers enrolled with our program are now able to order vaccines directly from PA SIIS by using their SIIS user credentials. Please request vaccines a week prior to when you intend to use them. It gives us enough time to review and approve your orders on a timely manner.
- Providers can request Pfizer vaccines in only one size- 450 dose tray.
- PA DOH has implemented a Hub & Spoke Redistribution Model to make sure small provider practices and pediatric care facilities can team up with large health networks and receive small amounts of COVID-19 vaccines to vaccinate eligible patients in their practices.

Data

Within the jurisdiction of PA DOH,

- Vaccine providers have administered 11,482,733 total vaccine doses as of Wednesday, June 23.
- 5,275,816 people are fully vaccinated: with a seven-day moving average of more than 24,800 people per day receiving vaccinations.
- 1,364,816 people are partially vaccinated, meaning they have received one dose of a two-dose vaccine.
- 6,640,644 people have received at least their first dose.

Education

FDA's FAQs on Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine

Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers Administering Vaccine

CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Webinar Series

CDC's COVID Vaccine Provider Education and Training

CDC's COVID Vaccine Inventory Management Best Practices

CDC's COVID Vaccination Toolkit

Percent of Delivered First Vaccine Doses Administered by U.S. States and Territories

U.S. COVID-19 Vaccination Program: Vaccine Channel Portfolio by Jurisdiction

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Communication Resources for COVID-19 Vaccines
Frequently Asked Questions about v-safe
Resources for Jurisdictions, Clinics, and Organizations

Every COVID-19 vaccine provider enrolled with PA DOH must sign a provider enrollment agreement. By signing the agreement, providers agree to store and handle the vaccine products as required by CDC's guidance on vaccine storage and handling. Therefore, providers will be responsible for vaccines shipped to their facility and ensuring they are received and stored appropriately. This is expected even when a vaccine shipment is delivered to a provider by error. Providers should never refuse a vaccine shipment. We expect that every vaccine provider understands the value of this precious cargo. Please remember that refusing a vaccine shipment means potentially unviable vaccines in most cases. Always be mindful that those vaccines could provide immunity to hundreds of eligible people and keep our community healthier and safer. Please be responsible and accountable.

Best Practice Refresher

- ✓ CDC recently released a reference guide for providers to understand the differences and similarities between the VFC program and the COVID-19 Vaccination program. The guide can be found here: VFC and COVID-19 Vaccination Program Comparison.pdf

- ✓ Do you have multiple COVID-19 vaccines in the same cold storage unit?
  Consider color coding them with stickers or placing them in different color plastic baskets in the cold storage units.

- ✓ Check your vaccine stock regularly to ensure there are not any expired vaccines. Discard the expired vaccines and send a report to CDC.

HRSA-FQHC Vaccine Transfers to External Providers (CDC, 2021)

HRSA has updated their guidance regarding Health Centers' ability to transfer vaccines received through the HRSA Health Center COVID-19 Vaccine Program (Vaccine Program). Participating health centers may now transfer HRSA-allocated vaccine to other health centers and vaccine providers, including partners not participating in the Vaccine Program.

A. Enrollment and Reporting Requirements:

Providers not participating in the Vaccine Program must be CDC-enrolled to receive vaccine transfers from participating health centers.

The provider receiving the vaccine transfer is responsible for reporting the vaccine administration data to their state IIS.

The health center transferring the doses out of their inventory will not report vaccine administration for transferred doses in the weekly Health Center COVID-19 Survey, or in any other reporting system.

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B. Inventory Management:

Both parties involved must update their inventory upon transfer.

The health center transferring the vaccine out of their inventory must zero out the transferred doses in VPoP.

The recipient organization receiving the vaccine from the health center must add the transferred doses to their inventory in their applicable reporting system.

There are also specific notification processes that must be followed by health centers that transfer HRSA-allocated vaccine doses to other health centers or external partners. Any interested health centers should reach out to Health Center Program Support or call 877-464-4772, option 2, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET, Monday-Friday (except federal holidays).

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COVID-19 Vaccine

Administration Errors and Deviations

A vaccine administration error is any preventable event that may cause or lead to inappropriate use of vaccine or patient harm. This table provides resources for preventing and reporting COVID-19 vaccine administration errors, as well as actions to take after an error has occurred. For completeness, it includes additional scenarios that deviate from CDC recommendations for vaccine intervals but are not considered administration errors.

For all vaccine administration errors:

- Inform the recipient of the vaccine administration error.
- Consult with the state immunization program and/or immunization information system (IIS) to determine how the dose should be entered into the IIS, both as an administered dose and to account for inventory.
- Providers are required to report all COVID-19 vaccine administration errors—even those not associated with an adverse event—to VAERS.
- Determine how the error occurred and implement strategies to prevent it from happening again.

Interim recommendations for COVID-19 vaccine administration errors and deviations

Vaccines	Type	Administration error/deviation	Interim recommendation
All currently authorized vaccines (Pfizer-BioNTech Moderna, and Janssen COVID-19 vaccines) Inactive ingredients	Site/route	• Incorrect site (i.e., site other than the deltoid muscle [preferred site] or anterolateral thigh [alternate site])	• Do **not** repeat dose.* Inform the recipient of the potential for local and systemic adverse events.
		• Incorrect route (e.g., subcutaneous)	• Do **not** repeat dose.* Inform the recipient of the potential for local and systemic adverse events.
	Age	• Unauthorized age group	• If received dose at age less than 12 years, do **not** give any additional dose at this time.** • If age 12 to 17 years and a vaccine other than Pfizer-BioNTech was inadvertently administered: o If Moderna vaccine administered as the first dose, may administer Moderna vaccine as the second dose (as off-label use, because Moderna vaccine is not authorized in this age group). o If Janssen vaccine administered, do **not** repeat dose with Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine.
	Dosage	• Higher-than-authorized dose volume administered	• Do **not** repeat dose.*†
		• Lower-than-authorized dose volume administered (e.g., leaked out, equipment failure, recipient pulled away)	• If more than half of the dose was administered, do **not** repeat dose.* • If less than half of the dose was administered or the proportion of the dose cannot be estimated, administer the authorized dose immediately (no minimum interval) in the opposite arm.§
	Storage and handling	• Dose administered after improper storage and handling (e.g., temperature excursion, more than allowed time after first vial puncture)	• Contact the manufacturer for guidance. If the manufacturer provides information supporting that the dose should be repeated, the repeated dose may be given immediately (no minimum interval) in the opposite arm.
		• Dose administered past the expiration/beyond-use date	• Contact the manufacturer for guidance. If the manufacturer provides information supporting that the dose should be repeated, the repeated dose may be given immediately (no minimum interval) in the opposite arm.
	Coadministration	• Dose administered within 90 days of monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for COVID-19 treatment	• Do **not** repeat COVID-19 vaccine dose. If person has already received one mRNA COVID-19 vaccine dose, defer administration of second dose for 90 days following receipt of antibody therapy. This deviation from CDC guidance does **not** require VAERS reporting.

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COVID-19 Vaccine

Administration Errors and Deviations

Interim recommendations for COVID-19 vaccine administration errors and deviations

Vaccines	Type	Administration error/deviation	Interim recommendation
mRNA vaccines only (Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna)	Intervals	• Second dose administered fewer than 17 days (Pfizer-BioNTech) or fewer than 24 days (Moderna) after the first dose (i.e., administered earlier than the 4-day grace period)	• Do **not** repeat dose.
		• Second dose administered more than 42 days after the first dose	• Do **not** repeat dose. This deviation from CDC guidance does not require VAERS reporting.
	Mixed series	• Incorrect mRNA COVID-19 vaccine product administered for second dose in 2-dose series	• Do **not** repeat dose.[§]
Pfizer-BioNTech only	Diluent	• ONLY diluent administered (i.e., sterile 0.9% sodium chloride)	• Inform the recipient that no vaccine was administered. Administer the authorized dose immediately (no minimum interval) in the opposite arm.[#]
		• No diluent, resulting in higher than authorized dose (i.e., 0.3 ml of undiluted vaccine administered)	• Do **not** repeat dose[*†] Inform the recipient of the potential for local and systemic adverse events.
		• Incorrect diluent type (e.g., sterile water, bacteriostatic 0.9% NS)	• Contact the manufacturer for guidance. If the manufacturer provides information supporting that the dose should be repeated, the repeated dose may be given immediately (no minimum interval) in the opposite arm.
		• Incorrect diluent volume (i.e., the vial contents were diluted with a diluent volume other than 1.8 ml, but a 0.3 ml dose was still administered)	• For doses administered with diluent volume less than 1.8 ml, inform the recipient of the potential for local and systemic adverse events.[*†] • For doses administered with diluent volume greater than 1.8 ml, do not repeat dose.[*] (Note: Dilution with a volume up to 4.0 ml [which exceeds vial capacity] results in more-than-half of the authorized dose administered.)

Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines only:

[*] If the dose given in error is the first dose, a second dose should be administered at the recommended interval (21 days [Pfizer-BioNTech] or 28 days [Moderna]). If this dose is the second dose, the series is complete, and no additional doses are needed.

[**] Do not administer the second dose until the person becomes eligible to receive vaccination (either by reaching the authorized age or if the authorization is extended to include additional age groups), even if this results in the second dose being administered after the recommended interval between doses.

[#] If the dose given in error is the first dose, the second dose should be administered at the recommended interval (21 days [Pfizer-BioNTech] or 28 days [Moderna]) from the date of receipt of the valid dose (not the date of receipt of the erroneous dose).

[†] If the administration error resulted in a higher-than-authorized vaccine dose, in general the second dose may still be administered at the recommended interval. However, if local or systemic side effects following vaccination are clinically concerning (outside of the expected side effect profile), lead to serious adverse reactions, or are ongoing at the time of the second dose, the decision to administer the second dose may be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

[§] Although CDC provides considerations for a mixed series in exceptional circumstances, this is still considered an administration error that requires VAERS reporting (as a mixed series is not authorized under the vaccine Emergency Use Authorizationsexternal icon).

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Independence Day Vaccine Ordering and Delivery

Pfizer

- No vaccine deliveries will occur on Monday, July 5th
- If you need vaccine for clinics scheduled on the holiday weekend:
    - Submit your orders early in the week (Mon/Tues) prior to Independence Day weekend

Moderna and J&J/Janssen Centrally Distributed Vaccines

- No vaccine deliveries will occur on Monday, July 5 or Tuesday, July 6
- If you need vaccine for clinics scheduled on the holiday weekend:
    - Submit your orders early in the week (Mon/Tues) prior to Independence Day weekend

**Janssen vaccine ordering is currently on hold. Its only available through redistribution.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

COVID- 19 Vaccine All Provider Call

Date: July 9th Time: 12 – 12:30 pm

Contact Us

For PA SIIS related inquiries

email: RA-DHPASIIS@PA.GOV Phone: 1- 877-774-4748

For all other COVID-19 vaccine related inquiries

email: RA-DHCOVIDVAX@PA.GOV Phone:1-877-724-3258